



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE
OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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Clarksville man charged in bomb threat incident *Suspect threatened officers at Southern District station*

Howard County police have charged a Clarksville man in connection to an incident in which threats were made to police officers at the Southern District station.

Benjamin Parsons, 34, of 6301 Eastern Star Way, Clarksville, was charged with one count of making a false statement regarding a destructive device and one count of threatening arson.

On May 25, at approximately 4:40 p.m., a man, later identified as Parsons, walked into the station and made threats against police, referring to possible explosive devices in and around the Southern District station.

He was immediately taken into custody. The building was evacuated, as was the adjacent fire station and several nearby businesses in a nearby strip mall in an abundance of caution.

Howard County police and members of the Department of Fire and Rescue Services immediately initiated a joint investigation, conducting searches of the police and fire stations. Representatives from the Howard County Office of the Fire Marshal, the Maryland State Office of the Fire Marshal, Prince George's County Police Department, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives also provided assistance. No devices were found. At no time were police services interrupted.

Parsons is being held at the Howard County Detention Center on \$100,000 bond.

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